

# GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

April 22, 2005

8:30 a.m.

## MINUTES

### GTSAC MEMBERS

Robert Morris, Chair  
Michael Prince  
Linda Scarpetta  
Dwight Sinila  
Ron Wilson  
F/Lt. Thad Peterson  
John Friend  
Cherie Mollison  
Sheriff Al Byam  
Chief David Stamm

### REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor  
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)  
Department of Community Health (MDCH)  
Department of Education (MDE)  
Department of State (DOS)  
Capt. Dan Atkinson, Department of State Police (MSP)  
Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Office of Services to the Aging  
Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association  
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

### STAFF

Sue Joseph

### GTSAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Vacant Local Representative – Road Commission

### ACTION TEAMS

Homer Smith/MADD-Michigan	Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving
Jim Culp/MDOT	Decision Making Process and Information Systems – Traffic Records Coordinating Council
Kathy Farnum/OHSP	Decision Making Process and Information Systems – Process Evaluation
Kim Lariviere/MDOT	Elderly Mobility and Safety Action Team
Tom Bruff/SEMCOG	Lane Departure – Traffic Safety/Engineering Action Team
Lisa Grost/MDCH	Non-Motorized Transportation – Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Action Team

### GUESTS

Cindy Agle  
George Baas  
Sgt. Matt Bolger  
Bob Felt  
Pam Hall  
Michael Irwin  
Sandy Liddle  
Betty Mercer  
Jeff Mitchell  
Dave Morena  
Cathy Pavick  
Matthew Raschke  
James Santilli  
Diane Sherman  
Sydney Smith  
Dave Wallace  
Mary Wichman

### REPRESENTING

Michigan Resource Center for Health and Safety  
Public Citizen – Trucking Industry  
MSP/Executive Division  
MDOT/Communications Section  
Office of Services to the Aging  
Michigan Center for Truck Safety  
Office of Financial and Insurance Services  
Mercer Consulting Services  
Van Buren County Road Commission  
Federal Highway Administration  
Michigan Licensed Beverage Association  
Washtenaw Area Transportation Study  
Michigan Highway Traffic Safety Alliance  
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center  
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center  
Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan  
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introductions completed. Open invitation to attendees to give a report prior to meeting adjournment.

### Public Comment/Announcement Items

**George Baas** – Michigan Truck driver voiced concerns over Michigan driver's lack of turn signals, tailgating, and speeding. Mr. Baas would like to see the fines raised to combat these issues.

### Approval of GTSAC February 25, 2005 Minutes

The February 25, 2005, minutes were approved. **Michael Prince made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Cherie Mollison. Motion passed.**

## **Reports/Updates**

### **➤ Chair Report**

Additional awards for the GTSAC Traffic Safety Award from the Summit Luncheon were presented for the Crash Process Redesign project. An informational/guidelines e-mail was sent to the contacts of the Emphasis Area/Action Teams which will be referred to as Action Teams. This information provided direction for development of action plans based upon the Comprehensive Strategic Highway Safety Plan adopted by the GTSAC in December 2004. All team contacts are asked to provide the GTSAC Commissioners with an overview of their action plans at either the June or August GTSAC meeting.

### **➤ Legislative Report – Sgt. Matt Bolger**

Sergeant Bolger discussed a handout regarding traffic safety legislative issues. The chair will draft a letter to the Governor regarding the bill to repeal the Motorcycle Helmet law.

## **GTSAC Commissioner Update**

### **➤ Community Health – Linda Scarpetta**

A Child Passenger Safety Assessment is planned for the week of June 6, 2005 in cooperation with OHSP. Results of this assessment will be used to develop the state action plan for Child Passenger Safety as well as the Occupant Protection Action Team. A summary of the Child Passenger Safety bills introduced this legislative session were distributed.

### **➤ Education – Dwight Sinila**

Public Act 187 – Pupil Transportation Bill is currently undergoing revisions.

### **➤ State – Ron Wilson**

Secretary Land will have a Motorcycle Safety Kick-off at the Capital to begin Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in May. The new Motorcycle Operator Manual was distributed for those interested in a copy. The driver education issue is being reviewed and further developed by the Department of State since taking over this responsibility from the Michigan Department of Education.

### **➤ State Police – F/Lt. Thad Peterson**

PBTs are being distributed and will be evaluated based on many statistical factors. An announcement memo, posted to the MSP web page, was distributed and discussed regarding the clarification of how to identify DOT approved motorcycle helmets. F/Lt. Peterson also distributed the MSP Field Services Update newsletter. The Driver Behavior Action Team has met and developed a draft plan which was distributed to meeting participants.

### **➤ Transportation – John Friend**

The Federal Transportation Authorization Bill expired in 2003 and six extensions have been issued since the expiration of the bill. Safety templates are being developed by the Department of Transportation and should be ready to present at a Summer GTSAC meeting. Construction season is upon Michigan. A National AASHTO presentation will be made by the Director of Transportation on the work being conducted within Michigan.

### **➤ OSA – Cherie Mollison**

Community forums are being held around the state to address senior driving issues. A handout was distributed to show what the forums cover in regards to older driver safety.

### **➤ OHSP – Mike Prince**

A handout was distributed regarding the crash fatality numbers for last year. The release of the 2004 crash information was completed in record time. Michigan experienced a significant drop in fatalities and an in-depth analysis is being conducted for OHSP through UMTRI. A handout was also distributed regarding the OHSP Summer Campaign format to promote the Safe Summer Initiative. A Traffic Safety Summit review and summary handout was distributed. The OHSP FY2004 Annual Evaluation Report was also distributed.

### **➤ Local Representation – Chief David Stamm – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police**

Most law enforcement agencies are utilizing grant funding through the OHSP to conduct the special enforcement mobilizations and better use resources that are available.

### **➤ Local Representation – Sheriff Al Byam – Michigan Sheriff's Association**

An underage drinking effort was conducted in conjunction with grocery stores for the labeling of alcohol products.

## **Emphasis Area Team Reports**

### **➤ Intersection Safety**

A report will be made at the June GTSAC Meeting.

### **➤ Elderly Mobility Safety – Kim Lariviere/MDOT**

The Action Team met on March 31, 2005 and discussed the Lead States Initiative. Kim Lariviere has been appointed chair of this action team. The updating of the 1999 Elderly Mobility Plan is the main focus of the action team.

➤ **Decision Making Process and Information System/Traffic Records – Jim Culp/MDOT**

Traffic Records Coordinating Committee reported that the action plan is being developed. The team has been expanded to include State Court Administrative Office, Michigan Department of Community Health, and Emergency Medical Services. Priorities are being identified and should be ready for presentation at the June GTSAC meeting.

➤ **Commercial Vehicle Safety – John Theroux/LCC**

Michael Prince reported for John Theroux regarding the Michigan Truck Safety Commission (MTSC) which discusses the trucking industry issues for the state. The MTSC will hold a Strategic Planning meeting on May 12, 2005 to finalize their Strategic Plan. A final plan for the MTSC should be available and ready to present at the June GTSAC meeting.

➤ **Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving – Homer Smith/MADD-Michigan**

Four problem areas have been identified for the team to focus on during the coming year. First, address year round enforcement and awareness that focuses on resources. Michigan Liquor Control Commission gives 55% of funds to local communities to help address the awareness issue. Second, increase driver awareness for impaired driving in relation to alcohol and drug impairment. Third, identify the training of probation officers. Fourth, make judges and probation officers aware of the technological advances. Next meeting of this action team is scheduled for Monday, April 25, 2005.

➤ **Occupant Protection – Heather Hockanson/MDCH**

Linda Scarpetta reported a name change for this action team. The new name is Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Coalition which is very active with the focus on booster seats. Linda Scarpetta distributed a research study completed by UMTRI and highlighted the major findings. Next action team meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2005. An action plan for this team will be developed as a result of the CPS Assessment being conducted in June 2005.

➤ **Non-Motorized Transportation Emphasis Area Team Request for Name Change – Lisa Grost/MDCH**

Action Team met on March 17, 2005. A request was made and approved to change the action team name to Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety.

➤ **Lane Departure – Tom Bruff/SEMCOG**

The Traffic Safety/Engineering Action Team will take on the issue of Lane Departure. Meeting minutes from the first meeting were distributed. The next meeting of this action team will be May 13, 2005. The crash data and NCHRP 500 papers are being reviewed to help give direction on the focus of this issue for Michigan.

## **Organization Reports**

➤ **SEMCOG Report – Tom Bruff**

A Peer Review Exchange meeting is being conducted in May. Presentations will be made by stakeholder and partner agencies to illustrate how they work with SEMCOG to coordinate traffic safety efforts and the use of traffic crash statistics.

➤ **MDOT Communications – Bob Felt/MDOT Communications**

Give Em a Brake Coalition – A news conference will be held on May 18, 2005 on the highway in a construction work zone through the assistance of other agencies and law enforcement. This news conference will make a strong statement for the safety of construction zone workers.

➤ **Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan – Dave Wallace**

Green Light publication highlights the work of training the prosecutors on many traffic safety related issues. PowerPoint presentations have been developed through PAAM to help prosecutors discuss community issues and how to address safety for the community in regards to traffic.

➤ **Mercer Consulting Group – Betty Mercer**

Coalition for a Safe and Responsible Michigan – The issue of Internet liquor sales has been directed to the Supreme Court for a decision. The Michigan Liquor Control Commission is also working with the coalition on this issue. A statement/news release will be issued as soon as the Supreme Court issues a ruling.

➤ **Michigan Truck Safety Center – Michael Irwin**

Several federal issues regarding truck safety are being watched regarding hours of service and hauling exemptions. The MTSC will meet with the Federal Motor Carrier and MSP Motor Carrier divisions to discuss the commercial vehicle seat belt use rate. The Share the Road public service announcement is available.

## **GTSAC Administrative Items**

Adjourn. Next Meeting is June 24, 2005 at Collins Road in the Presentation Room.

### **Future 2005 Meeting Schedule – 4th Friday of every other month**

August 26, 2005

October 28, 2005

December 16, 2005 – Date held until determined the necessity of a December meeting.